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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Request for Continued Examination:

The applicant respectfully requests continued examination of the above-indicated application as per 37 CFR 1.114.

The amendments made to the claims in the above section are over the last entered amendment filed November 13, 2006.

2. Rejection of claims 1-4, 6-9, and 11-12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frank, Jr. et al. (US 6,546,489), hereinafter "Frank," in view of Stevens (US 2002/0133702):

Regarding claims 1, 6, and 12:

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Independent claims 1, 6, and 12 have each been amended to overcome the claim rejections. These three independent claims now claim a "removable memory device removably connected to a computer" instead of claiming a "bootable software delivery device" for more clearly reciting the present invention. Claims 2-5 and 7-11 have also been amended to agree with the changes made to claims 1 and 6. In addition, claims 1, 6, and 12 have also been amended to state that the microcontroller is located in the removable memory device. The claim amendments are fully supported in the specification and in Figure 4, and no new matter is added.

The microcontroller of the removable memory device controls the delivery of software to the computer after the removable memory device is connected to the computer.

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In contrast, Frank does not teach a removable memory device containing

a connection port, a microcontroller, and a flash memory for removably connecting to a computer and delivering software to the computer. Frank teaches in Figure 3 a disk drive 424 connecting to a host computer 430, but the disk drive 424 does not contain a microcontroller. Instead, Frank teaches that the microprocessor 432 is located in the host computer 430 and not in the disk drive 424. Thus, Frank does not teach a removable memory device containing a microcontroller that is removably connected to a computer for delivering software to the computer and enabling the computer to execute the software when booting up.

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For these reasons, the combination of Frank and Stevens does not teach all of the limitations of the currently amended claims 1, 6, and 12, and these claims should be allowable over the cited prior art. Claims 2-4, 7-9, and 11 are dependent on claims 1, 6, and 12, and should be allowed if their corresponding base claims are allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1-4, 6-9, and 11-12 is respectfully requested.

3. Rejection of claims 5 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Frank and Stevens and further in view of Strom et al. (US 2004/0003274):

Claims 5 and 10 are dependent on claims 1 and 6, and should be allowed if the corresponding independent claims are found allowable.

25 Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Sincerely yours,

Weintentan

Date: 12/22/200

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